



Knightly News

Volume 3

April 2009

Number 10

Calendar of Events

Apr 12	Easter
Apr 16-19	Spring Jubilee
Apr 25	1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM St Stephen School
May 6	Monthly Business Meeting 8:00 PM Church MPR
May 8	4th Degree Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM
May 9	Respect Life Rosary 5:45 AM
May 10	Mother's Day
May 12	1st Degree Exemplification 7:30 Nativity
May 15	Family Social 6:30 PM Church MPR
May 16	2nd Degree Exemplification—St Stephen's School
May 20	Faith and Morals Meeting—6:30 Church MPR
May 22-24	State Convention—Orlando
Jun 3	Monthly Business Meeting (ELECTION of OFFICERS) 8:00 PM Church MPR
Jun 7	Corporate Communion (tentative) 8:00 AM
Jun 12	4th Degree Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM
Jun 13	Respect Life Rosary 5:45 AM
Jun 17	Faith and Morals Program 6:30 PM Church MPR
Jun 19	Family Social 6:30 PM Church MPR
Jun 20	1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM St. Stephen School
Jun 21	Father's Day

Happy Easter



Officers

Grand Knight

Julio Alvarez, Jr

Deputy Grand Knight

Chuck Lusky

Chancellor

Jerry Westbrook

Warden

Greg Celestan

Treasurer

John Sepessy

Advocate

Jim Kelly

Recorder

Paul Crescimone

Inside Guard

John Columbia III

Outside Guard

*Dan Laughman
Anthony Giaccone*

Trustees

Three Years- *Rick Hughes, PGK*
Two Years—*Nick Turco, PGK*
One Year-*Ed Milius, PGK*

Field Agents

Thomas P. Cummings III
813-625-2444
Email: Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org

Directors & Chairs

Membership Director

Darin O'Neal

Program Director

Chuck Lusky

Church Committee

Matt Preszler

Community Committee

Herb Swoope

Council Committee

Scott Sheffield

Family Committee

John Montaldo

Youth Committee

Tom Bailey

Degree Team Captain

Rick Hughes

Public Relations

Greg Grambor

RJS Concessions Contact

Julio Alvarez, Jr.

Newsletter Editor

Nick Turco

Columbian Squires Counselors

*Rob Fisher
Tom Bailey*

Resource Links

Council Web Site

www.kofc14084.org

Florida State Council

www.floridastatecouncil.com

Supreme Council:

www.kofc.org



Grand Knight's Report

Julio Alvarez, Jr
Julio Alvarez 662-1845
jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com

To my Brother Knights and your Families:

Thanks again to all Brothers and families who've participated in the few, however, very worthwhile events we scheduled this past month. Noteworthy were the conclusion of our Handicapped Charities Drive which this year netted \$2950 in donations which will be contributed to a handicapped charity on behalf of our Council and KofC Florida State Handicapped Charities; family participation at our Founder's Day Corporate Communion was astounding. The largest procession we've ever staged for a Corporate Mass, not to mention 'full house' turnout at the follow-on Breakfast at Ruby Tuesday's. Thanks to all of you who supported this family event and to Brother (Sir Knight) Scott Sheffield and the gang at Ruby Tuesday's on Gibsonton who set up a superb meal and environment for all attending. I encourage your support of this venue which has been a great supporter of many of our events. All these events were accomplished with the infectious enthusiasm and dedication for which you have all become well known. I thank each and every participant!

This month, I've appointed our Worthy Trustees, led by Sir Knight Nick Turco, to begin the task of developing the slate of officers for the upcoming Fraternal Year (1 July 2009 through 30 June 2010). This slate of nominees will be announced at the May 6th Business Meeting. If you have a nominee or are interested in being considered for nomination to one of our elected positions, please contact Nick Turco at email: nturco@tfc.circor.com. We will have the descriptions of those positions posted on our website very shortly. The election of Officers will take place at the June 3, 2009 Business Meeting. Maximum attendance is requested at both meetings. Service Program Directors are 'appointed positions'; however, if you have not 'declared' your membership to one of our Service Program Committees (which is a requirement in our Council) please contact any Service Program Director to do so. By June 30, 2009 every member will be assigned to a Committee by our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight; therefore, please make your choice known before that date.

I've established some very important Committees which some of you may aspire to be a part of. These are very important to the life of our Coun-

cil and your expertise and opinion will matter. In fact for all of our Committees I want each and every one of you to ensure that your families know that they too are invited to contribute if they feel the calling. As a 'Family' Organization, it's absolutely imperative that we take into consideration the council of our spouses and even young adults as applicable. The first is the '**Council/Budget Steering Committee**'. The purpose of this committee is to provide an independent assessment and review of Council Programs, both current and those identified as having future potential, and provide the Council Officers and Service Program Directors with Courses of Action which will help us chart a feasible course on how and what our Council will affect our Parish and Community in the future, beginning with the upcoming Fraternal Year. This 'course of action' will subsequently be presented to the Council at large for discussion, consideration and feedback at our June Business Meeting and ultimately a vote at our July Meeting. If you are interested in participating in this 'steering committee' please contact Sir Knight John Cirello at email: jcirello@tampabay.rr.com. I've asked John to keep the size of this committee to no more than 12 Knights and Family Members; therefore, please contact him right away and be prepared to roll up your sleeves following the Spring Jubilee. Jorge Arnoldson and Bill Smith have graciously stepped up to the plate to serve as our co-leads to steer our **Council commitment and support to Handicapped Charities**. Both these Brothers have personal experience in this very important calling and I've asked them to both 'educate us' and help us develop a program or programs and help us set realistic goals that will provide the greatest value for effort. If you are interested in being a part of this 'Standing Committee' please contact either of these Brothers at Emails: bill.x.smith@us.hsb.com or Jorge@arnoldson.com. As you will read in this newsletter, Brother Shawn Ryan, our Communications Director, has been working on developing a '**Collaboration Site**' which promises to be of great value, first to our Knights, and once up and running potentially expanded to our Parish and beyond. If you have 'skills' to assist him in building a quality site, please contact Shawn at Email: mrshawnster@gmail.com. Closely coupled to this is Brother Brian Holland's effort, in coordination with the collaborative tools, to build a '**Council Fraternal**



Grand Knight's Report (cont'd)

Community that connects our members with the venues, tools and opportunities necessary to assist each other with employment preparation, searching or hiring. This is what Fraternity is all about! Finally, Brother Peter Gallagher, currently unemployed, has offered to **repair, or build new, the Dividers & Missalette/Hymnal** Holders that join our seats in Church (he is estimating 30-40). We can purchase the materials for him and he will do the work; however, even though he has not asked for help, I would be remiss if I did not request for anyone interested in helping to please contact Peter at Email: petergpamg@verizon.net.

THE BIG EVENT this month is of course our Parish Annual **SPRING JUBILEE** Carnival from 16 to 19 April. Our commitment is our **'Knights Pub'** and **Traffic Control**. Every member is expected to participate in what is the largest Parish Fundraising event of the Year. Please go to our website (www.kofc14084.org) and sign up for the Pub and for Parking or contact for Knights Pub: grand-knight@kofc14084.org or Traffic Control: esleyzak@verizon.net. We are further asking our

'aspiring' ladies and hopefully *future Columbiettes* to take on the 'classier' task of serving the wine at the Pub. Don't be shy, no one will be turned away – there truly is something for every Knight and Family to do to make this a successful event for our St Stephen Parish. I also encourage all Brother Knights and Families to **please consider attending the Sunday morning Mass and follow-on Breakfast at the Jubilee Tent**. At the conclusion of the Breakfast there will be a **Tribute to our departed Brother, Sir Knight John Joyce**. There will be a very special presentation to the Parish on behalf of our departed brother that every one of you will want to witness. So, don't delay in purchasing your breakfast tickets and be a part of this memorable event. Please don't forget to regularly check our calendar of events posted on our website at www.kofc14084.org

Have a Blessed Month...and continue to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Fraternally,
Julio
Grand Knight 14084

Keep in our Prayers

- **Brother Knight Richard Mlodzik** who has recently been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- **Francis Xavier's** mother in law who is also suffering with pancreatic cancer
- **Herb Swoope** who continues his recovery from a successful surgery
- **Ed Slezak's sister, Marianne** who is struggling with lung cancer.
- **Bernie Loughlan** who is dealing with MS
- **Brother Tom Bailey** for his continued recovery.
- All Knights that are in financial distress

**The Will of God never takes you to
Where the Grace of God will not protect you.**

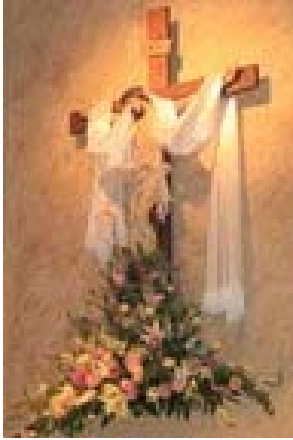


Chaplain's Report

Rev Bill Swengros

689-4900

pastor@ststephencatholic.org



God our Father,
by raising Christ your Son, you conquered
the power of death and opened for us the
way to eternal life.
Let our celebration today raise us up and
renew our lives by the Spirit that is within us.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

My brothers,

For the past forty days we have been preparing through prayer, fasting, and works of charity for the celebration of the central mystery of our faith: the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This Lent has been particularly trying with the global economic recession, the growing number assaults against the dignity and rights of the human person, and the endless drought. As hard as I've tried to keep my focus and to remain true to my Lenten commitments, I failed over and over again.

Yet, therein lies the joy. Christ gave his life

to save men like you and I - broken as we are. He died for us, not because we are worthy, but because of his great love for us - despite our unworthiness. Sacrificial love like this makes no sense at all unless we think of the love a father has for his children or the sacrifice a soldier will make to save his comrades. If we are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for our family and friends, how much more so is our loving God willing to pour out His life for us?

As Deacon Rick reminds us, "God is good. All the time. All the time. God is good." Then he always asks "Do you believe it?" Therein lies the rub. Do we believe it? Or perhaps better put, can our family, friends, neighbors, or coworkers tell we believe it by the way we live our lives. Is it obvious by the way we carry ourselves that we are Christians? Catholics? Knights?

The highest compliment for a true disciple of Christ is when others approach asking what is the secret for our joy, peace, and love. When they say: "I don't know what you have but I want it." This means that the light of the risen Christ is shining through us for all to see.

As Catholics, we are Easter Christians, basking in the glory of Paschal Mystery. For us, Easter is not a day but a way of life. When trials and challenges come our way, we take heart in the sure and certain knowledge that Christ is with us now and forever. And with Him, all things are possible.

May the peace and joy of the Risen Lord be with you all!

Fr. Bill Swengros
Chaplain



Membership Report

Darin O'Neal

671-1833

O'Neal@kingengineering.com

Please congratulate Matt Knier, Nick Syzdek, George Weber, Allen Kleinotas, Ted Russell, Milt Ambrose and Paul Archer who became **First Degree Knights** on March 21, 2009 in the Exemplifica-



tion held at St. Stephen School. Also the following Brothers became **Second Degree Knights** on March 28, 2009: Joseph Klippel, Bill Smith, Francis



Xavier, Dom Cirello and T. Fisher. Lastly, please congratulate John Kulesa, Myron Magedanz and Jim Whiteman who became **Fourth Degree Knights** on April 4th.

The next **First degree** will be **May 12**, Tuesday night

7:30, at Nativity. We should have some members coming in and it's a great opportunity to observe a first degree and see other councils degree teams at work.

A **Third Degree** Exemplification will be held on Saturday, April 18th, 2009, 12:00PM noon hosted by District 32. The location will be Sacred Heart Academy, 3515 North Florida Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602. All candidates must report no later than 11:00AM with current 2nd degree membership card in order to be eligible to take the degree. Proper dress code of a coat and tie is recommended. Second Degree Members who have completed requirements for approval as a candidate for Advancement to the Second Degree must coordinate with their sponsor and contact our Third Degree Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Greg Celestan** at Email: 3rddegree@kofc14084.org, Phone: **655-4007**.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO WORK ON YOUR ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS!

Being a Knight means being involved and learning about our Order, our Principles, and most importantly... learning to better practice our Faith. I encourage each and every one of you, whether working towards a degree or sponsoring a potential Candidate, to make the effort to grow as a Knight by taking an active part in achieving the requirements to advancement in the Order.

Finally, please continue your efforts to build the Council and the Order by recruiting **quality** Catholic Gentlemen with the energy and spirit to make a difference in our Community.

Fraternally,
Darin

Membership Director

Knights of Columbus St Stephen Council #14084



We are proud to announce that **Kelli Webber** (in the white tee shirt) won Second Place in the KofC Florida State level Free Throw Tournament a few weeks ago at Bishop Moore Catholic HS in Orlando. She is awarded her trophy by our KofC Florida State Deputy, James Schonefeld (left) at the closing ceremonies. Also shown are Doug Murray (General Programs Administrator) and Christopher Kernan (State Treasurer).





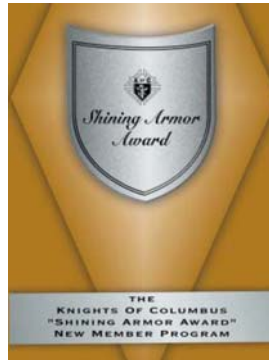
Family of the Month ***Steve Haines and his wife Sue***

For their active participation in the Knights and parish life, especially for their involvement in religious education



Knight of the Month ***Darin O'Neal***

For his seemingly tireless efforts in membership, recruiting, and encouraging members to work towards advanced degrees



Anthony Giaccone Shining Armor Awards Rob Fisher

Field Agent's Report

The upheaval in the markets continues. Many financial firms are seeing their Standard and Poors and A. M. Best Ratings downgraded. The Knights of Columbus continues with its AAA and A++ ratings. Pundits are joking about 401ks becoming 201Ks! Many retirees are attempting to return to the workforce.

Brother Knights who have seen their earnings erode, the cash values in their variable and universal policies with commercial companies erode, may want to seek the safety and security of the programs the Knights of Columbus offer. The Order is experiencing an unprecedented volume of funds flowing into our offerings.

The Knights of Columbus continues to remain steadfast to Fr. McGivney's Vision for the protection of our families. If you have not had a recent review, maybe NOW is the time to call your agent.

Fraternally,
Tom Cummings
813-625-2444

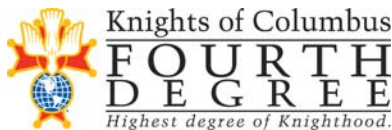


Holy Week Message from Pope Benedict XVI



'We Must Embrace and Adore the Cross of the Lord, ' Pope Says

In these very beautiful days of Holy Week ... I encourage you to contemplate Christ in the mysteries of his Passion, Death and Resurrection. In them you will find what surpasses all wisdom and knowledge, namely, the love of God manifested in Christ. Learn from him, who did not come "to be served but to serve, and to give his life as ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). This is the style of Christ's love, marked with the sign of the glorious cross, in which Christ is exalted, in the sight of all, with his open heart, so that the world can look and see, through his perfect humanity, the love that saves us.... That is why we must embrace and adore the cross of the Lord, make it our own, accept its weight as the Cyrenean to participate in the only thing that can redeem the whole of humanity (cf. Colossians 1:24).



From Bishop McLaughlin 4th Degree Assembly 1850

Capt Paul Babiarz, (USAF), son of Sir Knight Tom Babiarz, has requested help to supply the Baghdad Support initiative. This is a program to provide supplies to the orphanage, school, and maternity hospital run by the Catholic Nuns. This initiative was first started by Council 6847 in SC and now by Council 11138 from Tampa.

The supplies needed are:

Diapers, baby formula, baby wipes, over the counter medications, stuffed animals, backpacks, small toys, school supplies, school uniform items (white shirt and black pants). (No items should have the U.S. flag, or refer to the U.S.)

Please bring your donation to the next 4th degree meeting (May 8th at St. Clement) and we will pack the items and get them ready for shipment.



Committee Reports

Youth Activities



The Squires' Councilors / Youth Committee has been very hard at work this month. We have got a lot of things planned for the end of this fiscal year. The Squires have four committees and we now have enough councilors to have one working with the Squire Director of each committee. The great thing about the Squires program is the advancement requirements that they have set up. There are only four ranks in the squires and each rank continues to build their knowledge on the principals of our order. What is great is to watch these boys as they learn more and work to fulfill the requirements. Last month we had four boys who completed the last of their requirements for the first rank, which is Shield Bearer. There are several requirements for the next rank that require the boys to work more in the committees. So, it is great to have such a large group of Knights working with them. However, there is always room for "one more opening on the Youth / Squires committee"

Esto Dignus (Be Worthy)

San Jose Home Makers

Brothers,

A lot of you heard about the new San Jose Home Makers ministry at the last meeting. I just want to open up a call for a Knight that would like to be the project leader to help them out with fixing up their building. Pam Stamey is currently running the mis-



sion and she is VERY energetic about getting it moving. The Squires are going to start helping them out

by cleaning away the overgrown trees and bushes that are right around the convent.

Background on the San Jose Home Makers: their purpose is to help out migrant worker and other immigrants newly relocated from Mexico (legally). Their purpose is to set them up with a stable home environment so that they are less likely to move around. This will help them improve their skills and



educate their kids, thus allowing all of them to get better jobs. The San Jose Home Makers do this by furnishing apartments for families and giving them the basic supplies they need to start off. They have found that these families are less likely to move with the migrant work if they have things like a bed and other large furniture that they can't just throw in their car and move on with.

Currently they are working out of an old unused convent that is next to the San Jose Mission in Dover. It is this convent that we have been asked to help out with. I took some pictures while we were out there to show you what they are working with. Here is the link to those pictures: <http://picasaweb.google.com/rfisher001/SanJoseHomeMakers?authkey=Gv1sRgCPrZ3bHCyd6hgQE#>. It isn't an incredible amount of work but there are a number of things that just have not been kept up with on the building and are now in need of repair. So, we are looking for a Knight that would like to take this on and manage it as a long term project. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer for this please contact myself or Julio.

Thank you,
Brother Rob



Committee Reports

Community Committee

Road Clean Up scheduled for April 25, 2009 at 9:30 reporting time. Adopt-A-Highway program through which community groups accept responsibility for a short stretch of highway and agree to keep the roadside free, of litter. John Kulesa is the lead person to contact, E-mail john.kulesa@earthlink.net. Please come out and support this project.

Support your Veterans

The Knights of Columbus Assembly 1850 will be hosting a trip for our VA Veterans from the Haley Cove Nursing Home. The event is scheduled for April 21, 2009. Meeting time is 9:30 at MOSI 4801 E. Fowler Ave, Tampa.

MOSI is a not-for-profit, community-based institution and educational resource that is dedicated to advancing public interest, knowledge, and understanding of science, industry, and technology. MOSI's core ideology is to make a difference in people's lives by making science real for people of all ages and backgrounds.

This exhibit, BODY WORLDS & The Story the Heart offers insights on the human body, disease, and looks closely at the heart—revealing through the lens of anatomy, cardiology, psychology and culture how this four-chambered muscle nourishes, regulates and sustains life.

This event is free for any Knights that would like to attend. The only requirement is that you wear you Knights Shirt and badge.

If you are planning on attending, please let me know my phone number 813-628-0699 or e-mail at hswoope@msn.com.

This will be a great opportunity to spend time with our Veterans.



VA PICNIC

DATE: SATURDAY MAY 2, 2009

LOCATION: HALEY COVE NURSING HOME

SERVING TIME: 12:00 TIL 2:00

FOOD: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Drink

Entertainment: DJ

The motto in front of Haley House is "The price of freedom is visible here", referring to the many veterans, both young and old, who are recovering from their wounds.

"KofC" with their families raised the spirits of these brave men and women. To be present is to know just how important these visits are to our heroes. No substitute is possible for the giving of one's time to such a worthy cause.

We are asking all Knights to help support these Veterans. There are approximately 80 residents. We will also be providing Music for this event.

If you plan to attend this event please contact Herbert Swoope, Phone Number 813-628-0699 E-mail hswoope@msn.com.

Let's not forget that God is giving all of us this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those, which are less fortunate

God Bless
Herbert Swoope

Church Committee

The Church Committee would first and foremost like to thank Matt Preszler for his dedicated leadership of the committee in the past. Matt has stepped down so that he may spend more precious time with Rowena and their new little girl Noel. Our Worthy Grand Knight has appointed Patrick Roach to head up the committee. Currently we are working on getting the Vocation Chalice Program back in the forefront at the Church and at the school.

Thank you also to all who helped make the Corporate Mass on March 29 a great success. If you are interested in joining the Church Committee, please contact Patrick Roach at proach1027@yahoo.com